

United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development

Community Connect Awards – Georgia

2002 Grant Awards:

Glenwood Telephone Company Glenwood Georgia Grant Amount: \$277,819

Contact: Ms. Janice E. O'Brien, 912-523-5111

County: Wheeler

Glenwood Telephone Company proposes to provide DSL service to an economically challenged rural community of approximately 883 people in Glenwood, Georgia. The funds sought for the project will be used to acquire equipment that will interface the Glenwood Telephone Company's digital switching system that will provide the basis of DSL service. Additionally, a 1088 square foot commercial modular structure will be purchased and set up for use as a public access community center. The availability of broadband service to the community will be an essential tool in support of the need for technological literacy. Moreover, the computer-based training programs and instructional classes on computer topics that are to be offered at the public access community center will allow local residents the opportunity to enhance job-related skills and encourage problem solving and other developmental skills. Glenwood Telephone Company will provide free broadband services to the fire department, the Wheeler County Hospital and the Tri-County Alternative Public School for two years. The Wheeler County Hospital hopes to use DSL service in an needed telemedicine application.